

## Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 OMB-01 DRC-01 /144 W

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R 031634Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6079

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

RP/AMEMBASSY PRAGUE 1744

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WARSAW 5164

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GW, PL

SUBJECT: SCHEEL VISIT TO POLAND

REF: WARSAW 5163

1. POLITICAL COUNSELOR HAS DISCUSSED FORTHCOMING SCHEEL VISIT TO POLAND WITH DR. RHEKER, THE DCM OF THE FRG EMBASSY. HER COMMENTS ON THE POLISH POSITION WITH RESPECT TO FRG CONSULAR REPRESENTATION OF WEST BERLINERS WERE REPORTED IN THE REFTEL. HER OTHER COMMENTS HAD TO DO WITH THE REPATRIATION OF GERMAN ETHNICS AND THE POLISH TRADE DEFICIT WITH THE FRG.

2. SHE DEPICTED THE REPATRIATION OF GERMAN ETHNICS AS ONE OF THE MOST SERIOUS ISSUES FOR THE FRG IN ITS BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH POLAND. SHE SAID THAT 49,000 HAVE BEEN REPATRIATED SO FAR. FOR A WHILE AFTER THE

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1970 AGREEMENT THE RATE WAS RUNNING AT ABOUT 2000 A MONTH

BUT IT FELL BELOW 1000 A MONTH SOME TIME AGO AND THAT IS WHERE IT REMAINS, DESPITE SOME PROMISES IN RECENT MONTHS BY POLISH LEADERS TO PROMINENT VISITING GERMAN POLITICIANS, INCLUDING A PROMISE FROM GIEREK TO WISNIEWSKI DURING THE LATTER'S RECENT VISIT TO POLAND. DR. RHEKER SAID THIS WAS DISCUSSED WITH POLISH VICE FOREIGN MINISTER CZYREK DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO BONN AND HE PROMISED THAT THE SITUATION WOULD IMPROVE. DR. RHEKER SAID THAT THE GERMAN RED CROSS HAS OVER 270,000 CASES OF DOCUMENTED GERMAN ETHNICS WHO WISH TO BE REPATRIATED. THIS IS NOT SIMPLY A MATTER OF THE REUNIFICATION OF FAMILIES; IT INCLUDES EVERYONE WHO CONSIDERS HIMSELF A GERMAN AND CAN IN SOME WAY DOCUMENT THIS TO THE SATISFACTION OF THEIR GERMAN AUTHORITIES. DR. RHEKER WAS VAGUE ON THE SPECIFICS OF SUCH DOCUMENTATION. MOST OF THE ETHNIC GERMAN ARE IN KATOWICE AND OLSZTYN PROVINCES. WHEN ASKED IF THE POLES MIGHT NOT BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE LOSS OF SKILLED GERMAN ETHNIC WORKERS, PARTICULARLY IN THE KATOWICE AREA, DR. RHEKER REJECTED THIS, NOTING THAT, IN ANY CASE, AS SOON AS SOMEONE APPLIES FOR REPATRIATION TO GERMANY HE IS FIRED FROM HIS JOB. IF FIRING APPLICATIONS IS BEING USED AS A DETERENT TO APPLYING FOR REPATRIATION IT IS BACKFIRING BECAUSE IT IS CURRENTLY COSTING THE POLES AS GREAT A LOSS IN MANPOWER AS REPATRIATION ITSELF.

3. DR. RHEKER SAID THE POLISH TRADE DEFICIT WITH THE FRG WHICH THIS YEAR IS RUNNING AT AN ANNUAL RATE OF 1 BILLION MARKS, IS OF GREAT CONCERN TO BOTH SIDES. THE FRG FEARS A REDUCTION IN POLISH PURCHASES IN THE FRG UNLESS THE FRG CAN DO SOMETHING TO ALLEVIATE THE SITUATION.

SHE SAID THAT VARIOUS MEASURES ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION BUT SHE DID NOT GET SPECIFIC. SHE SAID THAT THE POLES HAVE TOLD THE FRG EMBASSY THAT BECAUSE OF THIS DEFICIT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE CAREFULLY SCREENS ALL PURCHASE ORDERS BY POLISH ENTERPRISES FOR FRG PRODUCTS TO SEE IF THE ITEMS IN QUESTION COULD NOT BE PURCHASED IN SOME OTHER COUNTRY SO AS NOT FURTHER TO AGGRAVATE THE EXISTING TRADE DEFICIT WITH THE FRG.

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4. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAD BEEN TOLD EARLIER BY FRG COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR THAT PROCEDURE WAS INSTITUTED IN MID-SUMMER WHEREBY ALL POTENTIAL PURCHASES FROM FRG OF ONE-HALF MILLION OR MORE MARKS MUST BE REFERRED TO A SPECIAL COMMISSION TO DETERMINE IF IMPORT COULD BE MADE FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY IN EFFORT TO COMBAT MOUNTING POLISH TRADE DEFICIT WITH FRG.  
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